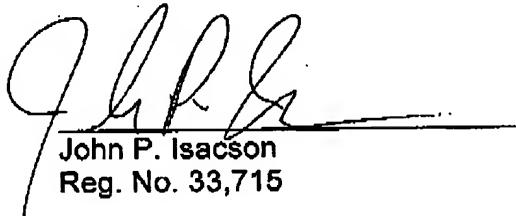


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REMARKS

Applicants cancel claims 1-163 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 164-182 are pending. Claims 181-182 are new in the application. Claim 164 is amended by adding the term "biocompatible" and a phrase that "the biocompatible gel is suitable for *in vivo* use" for clarity. New claims and amendments are supported by the specification. Therefore no new matter has been added. A first office action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,



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April 28, 2006
Date

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